Defective STD System in Bihar

2597. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the STD system in Godda, Banka, Deoghar, Dumka and Dhanbad Telephone Exchanges of Bihar Telecome Circle were generally found defective during the period from June 1996 till date;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the month-wise details of the STD system during period June to December, 1996 when the Exchange remained defective; and

(d) the arrangement made to make the system work smoothly?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERM A): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Post Offices Without Telephones in Punjab and Uttar Pradesh

2598. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Post Offices in Punjab and Uttar Pradesh where telephones have not been installed;

(b) the number of Post Offices from where telephones have been shifted to Panchyats;

(c) the number of Panchayats in these States where no telephone with STD facilities has been provided so far and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERM A): (a) There are 3088 and 14,214 Post Offices in the States of Punjab and Uttar Pradesh respectively where telephones have not been installed.

(b) There is no Post Office in Punjab and Uttar Pradesh from where telephones have been shifted to Panchayats.

(c) and (d) The number of Panchayats in Punjab and Uttar Pradesh where no telephone with STD facilities has been provided so far is 11,743 and 51,243 respectively.

STD facility is provided on demand if it is technically and administratively feasible.

Wireless Telephone Exchanges

2599. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to acquire technology to provide instant telephone connections without any wiring to Telephone Exchanges;

(b) by when this technology is going to be launched;

(c) the main features of this technology;

(d) the details of the cost of installation of telephones under this technology; and

(e) whether this technology cannot be developed indigenously . by highly advanced DoT and private companies in the telecome field?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is proposed to be launched during the 9th Five Year Plan.